

Indiana Department of Environmental Management Office of Water Quality Wetlands Section

Publication Date: April 5, 2010

PUBLIC NOTICE

IDEM ID Number: 2010-109-35-BCB-A

Corps of Engineers ID Number: LRL-2010-295-sjm

Closing Date: April 26, 2010

To all interested parties:

This letter shall serve as a formal notice of the receipt of an application for Section 401 Water Quality Certification by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). The purpose of the notice is to inform the public of active applications submitted for water quality certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1341) and to solicit comments and information on any impacts to water quality related to the proposed project. IDEM will evaluate whether the project complies with Indiana's water quality standards as set forth at 327 IAC 2.

1. Applicant:

Mr. Tom Wall

Huntington County Board of Commissioners

201 North Jefferson Street Huntington, IN 46750 2. Agent: Mr. Neal Bennett

Butler, Fairman and Seufert, Inc. 8450 Westfield Boulevard, Suite 300

Indianapolis, IN 46240

3. Project location:

NE ¼ of Section 12, Township 26 North, Range 9 East, Warren U.S.G.S. Quad, Huntington County Along Bellville Road, approximately 1.75 miles north of the intersection of CR 900 S and Belleville Road.

4. Affected waterbody:

Salamonie River (Salamonie 8-Digit HUC – 05120102)

5. Project Description:

The applicant proposes to extend the right river bank side slope from existing toe-of-slope an average of 6' to the historic toe-of-slope. The project will result in the discharge of 335 cubic yards (cys) of gabion baskets, 13.3 cys of riprap, 70 cys of vegetated coir logs and 813 cys of clean earthen fill below the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) for 680 linear feet. The clean earthen backfill will be graded, covered with turf reinforcement matting that is pre-seeded with native riparian and slope stabilization species, and vegetated coir logs will be placed at specific flood stage elevations on the new slope. Additionally, trees and shrubs will be installed along the new slope. The purpose of the project is to rehabilitate Belleville Road where the Salamonie River has undercut the roadway and caused the guardrail to be ineffective. This alternative prevents significant wetland impacts that would occur if Bellville Road were to be realigned to the north. For additional plans and information, please visit the IDEM Public Notice Website at http://www.in.gov/idem/6397.htm

Comment period:

Any person or entity who wishes to submit comments or information relevant to the aforementioned project may do so by the closing date noted above. Only comments or information related to water quality or potential impacts of the project on water quality can be considered by IDEM in the water quality certification review process.

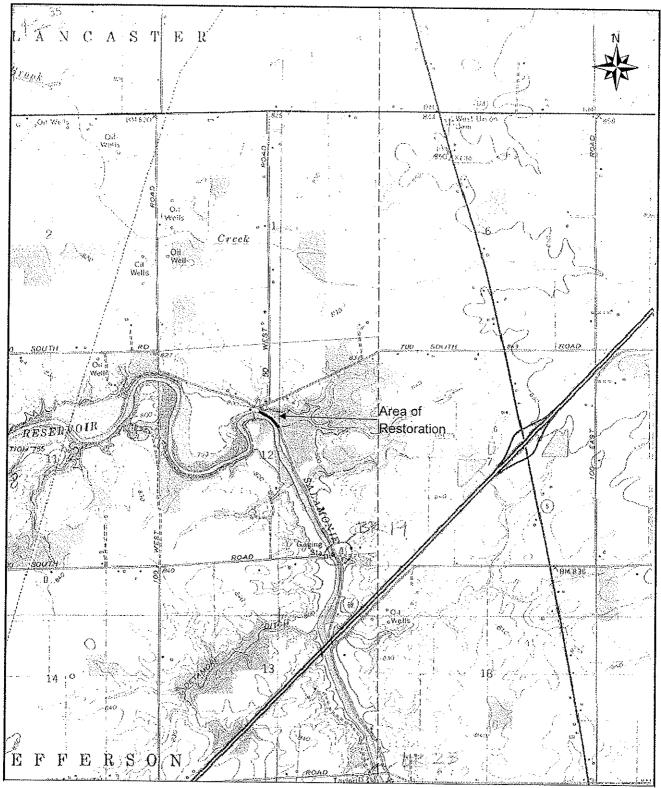
Public Hearing:

Any person may submit a written request that a public hearing be held to consider issues related to water quality in connection with the project detailed in this notice. The request for a hearing should be submitted within the comment period to be considered timely. The request should also state the reason for the public hearing as specifically as possible to assist IDEM in determining whether a public hearing is warranted.

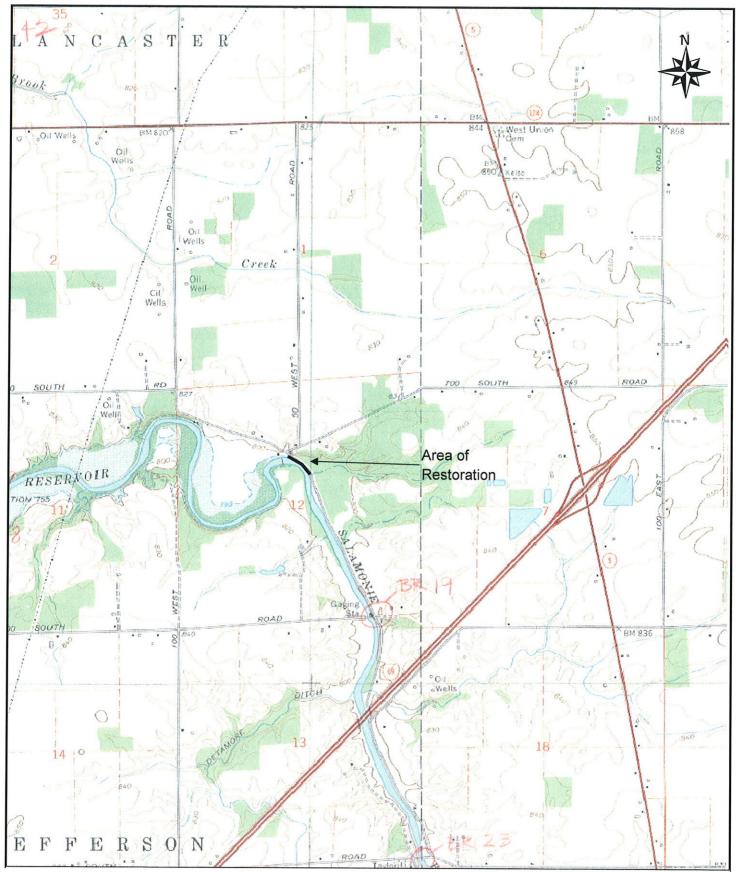
Questions?

Additional information may be obtained from Mr. Brad Baldwin, Project Manager, at 317-234-5647. Please address all correspondence to the project manager and reference the IDEM project identification number listed on this notice. Indicate if you wish to receive a copy of IDEM's final decision. Written comments and inquiries may be forwarded to -

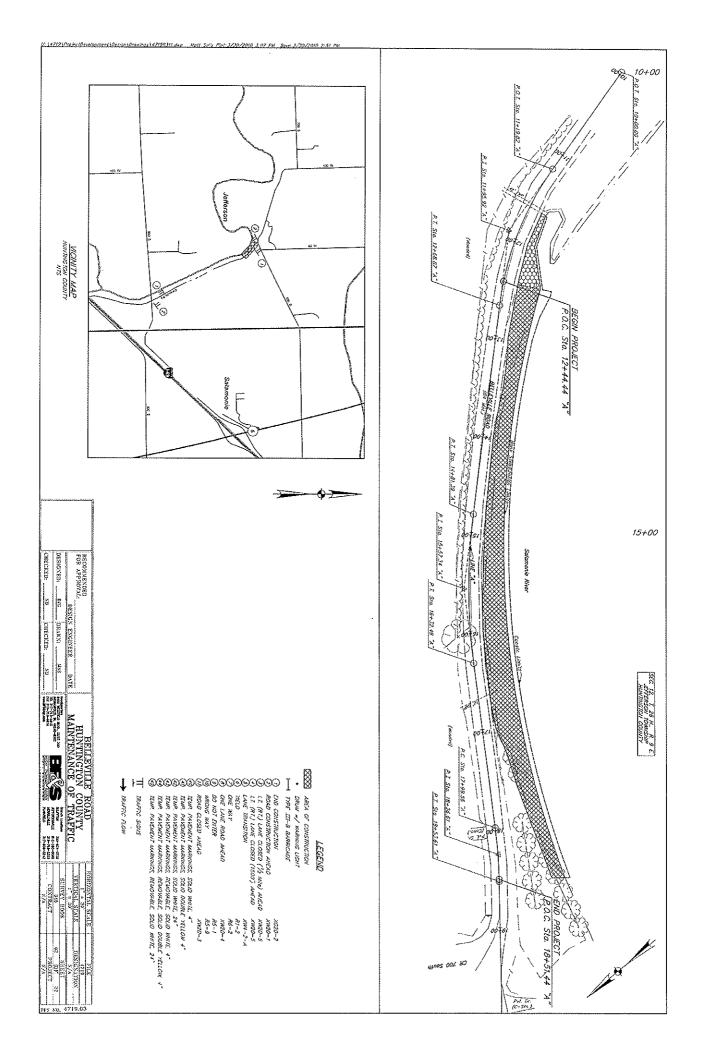
MC65-42 WQS IGCN 1255 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-22 FAX: 317/232-8406

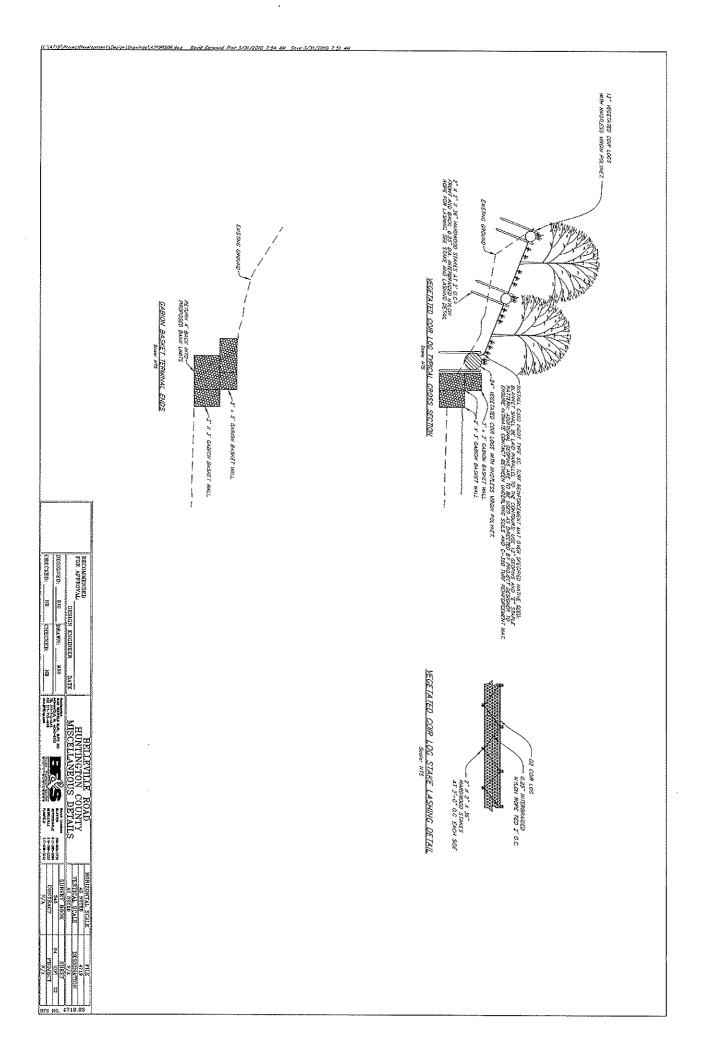


Portion of U.S.G.S. Warren, Indiana Quadrangle Belleville Road Safety Improvement Project Huntington County, Indiana



Portion of U.S.G.S. Warren, Indiana Quadrangle Belleville Road Safety Improvement Project Huntington County, Indiana





LANDSCAPE GENERAL NOTES:

PLANT SCHEDULE

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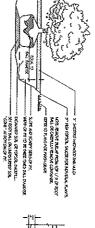
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(3) TREE PLANTING



2) SHRUB PLANTING

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IDEM 401 Water Quality Certification – Belleville Road WQC Application Additional Information Sheet

Other location descriptions or driving directions

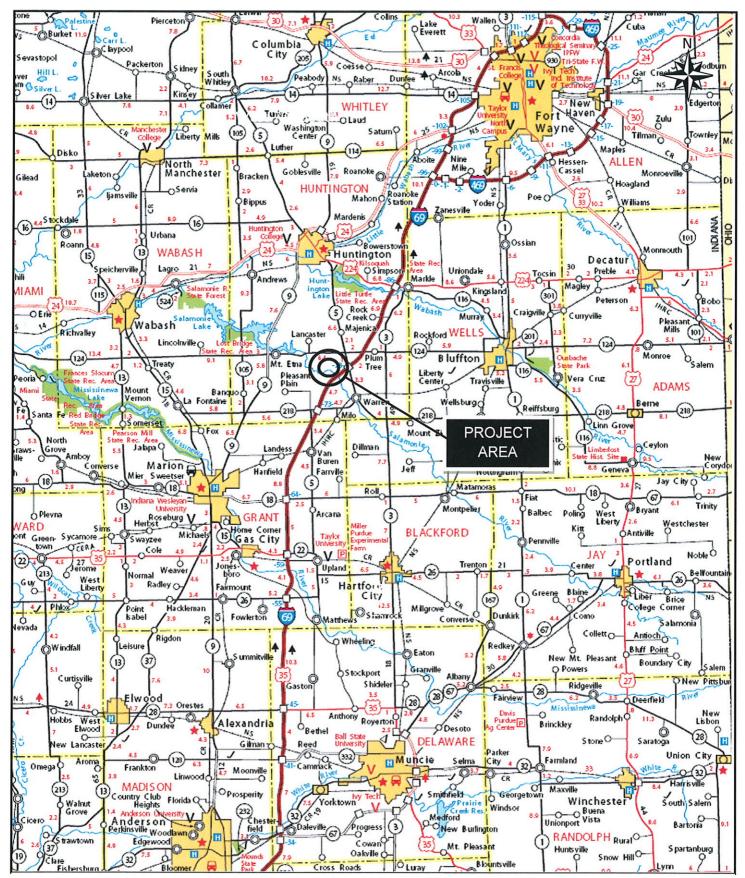
The project is located two miles northwest of the Town of Warren which is approximately 90 miles northeast of Indianapolis, Indiana. From Indianapolis, take I-69 north to State Road 5 east. Go east on State Road 5 to S. Meridian Street. Turn north on S. Meridian and continue to E County Road 900 S. Turn east on CR 900 S and take the bridge over the Salamonie River. Turn north on Belleville Road and continue 1.75 miles into project area.

Purpose of Project and Overview of Activities

The Huntington County Board of Commissioners proposes to rehabilitate Belleville Road from the curve south of County Road 700 South to County Road 700 South. The guardrail has become ineffectual due to the severe undercutting of the roadway by the Salamonie River located along the west side of Belleville Road. Much the guardrail throughout this 600 foot section is not supported sufficiently to withstand a collision. Due to the proximity of forested wetland on the east side of Belleville Road, the roadway cannot be moved over to the east. As a result of an on-site meeting on October 28, 2008 between the USFWS, IDNR, IDEM, BF&S and the County, it was determined that to adequately repair the road way and guardrail without impacting the forested wetland, the riverbank would need to be extended and stabilized from further erosion. The restoration design is a result of information obtained from historic aerial photography and USGS Stream Gage data taken from a gage located upstream at County Road 800 N and Belleville Road. We propose to place gabion baskets at the historic toe-ofslope, then backfill with clean earthen fill, place coir logs at specific flood stage elevations on the new slope, which will also hold down turf reinforcement mat, that is pre-seeded with native riparian and slope stabilizing species and install trees and shrubs on the new slope to ensure long term erosion protection.

<u>Is there a practicable alternative to the proposed activity?</u>

Alternate 1: Realign Belleville Road to eliminate the curve and extend it 700 feet north to intersect S County Road 50 W. This alternate would have placed the road into palustrine forested wetland with potential habitat for Indiana bats. Alternate 2 is the do-nothing alternate. Although, this alternate would eliminate all environmental impacts, it does not meet the purpose and need of the project, which is to repair Belleville Road and improve safety for motorists by repairing the guardrail and deteriorated asphalt. All three alternatives were discussed by representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources, Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management, BF&S and Huntington County Highway Dept. It was determined that safety repairs must be completed on this section of Belleville Road. In order to achieve this, it was decided that a stream bank project would allow for guardrail rehabilitation along with solve the erosion problem that is undercutting the roadway. This erosion protection would also prevent further roadway deterioration and excessive sediment loads from entering the Salamonie River. As a result of on-site discussions, Alternate 1 and 2 were dismissed from further analysis.



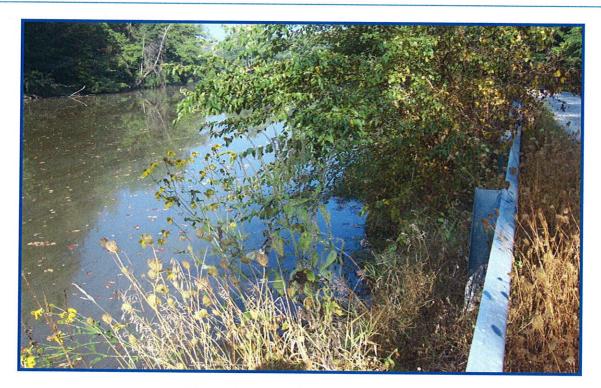
Portion of Indiana State Roadway Map Belleville Road Safety Improvement Project Huntington County, Indiana



2005 Aerial Photography Belleville Road Safety Improvements Huntington County, Indiana



2005 Aerial w/ National Wetland Inventory Belleville Road Safety Improvements Huntington County, Indiana



Salamonie River undercutting the roadway edge



Forested wetland located east of Belleville Road's edge



Looking west at Salamonie River from the south end of the project area



Looking west at main drainage channel running through forest (this discharges in the Salamonie River at the south end of the restoration area)